

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH WRAP-UP



FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

What was the Program up to in 2023-20024?

- **2 Weeks of Kids 4 Clean Water Camp**
- **CSTHEA Expo**
- **TN River Rescue**
- **Haunted Trail**
- **Hamilton County Fair**
- **Commission presentation**
- **Tri-State Homeshow**
- **TN Tree Day**
- **Save Water Drink Wine**
- **School lecture and activity**
- **WaterWays field trips (6 schools)**
- **National Trails Day**
- **Project WET Workshop**
- **Mailers to developers**
- **Augmented Reality Sandbox**
- **New pet waste stations**
- **TNSA social media**
- **Water Quality Program Website**
- **Pre Construction Meetings**
- **TNSA social media**
- **Water Quality website**

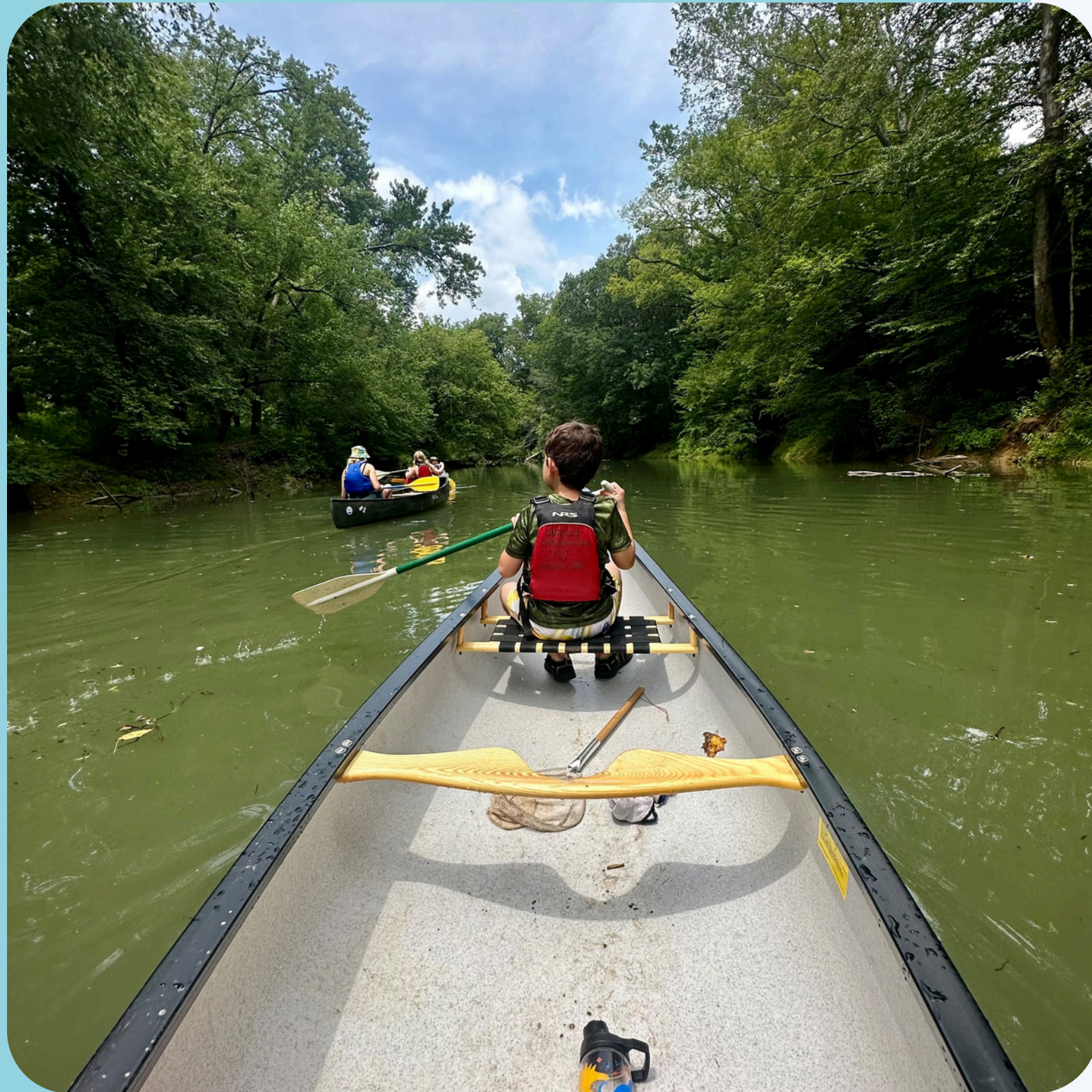


Special recognition is due to all employees who volunteer their time working events after hours and on weekends. We couldn't do it without their cooperation.

We would also like to thank our partner organizations. Together, with a shared mission, we can bring awareness to water quality and stormwater runoff issues and better serve Hamilton County.

Thank you!

Kids 4 Clean Water Camp



- 2 weeks
- 20 campers
- McCoy Farm
- Greenway Farm
- Staff led water quality lessons



WaterWays event



TENNESSEE RIVER RESCUE

TENNESSEERIVERRESCUE.ORG

35th Annual

The Program was the zone leader for the Mountain Creek station.

Approximately 40 volunteers helped clean up a large abandoned homeless camp.

Two dumpster loads, over 7,000 lbs. of trash was removed!



Conservation Camp

During the 3 day event, staff led a hands-on enviroscape lesson to approximately 450 students, teachers, and chaperones, including public schools and homeschool families.

Other presenters were: TDEC, TN Forestry, TWRA, UT Extension Master Gardeners, U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, TN Aquarium, TN State Parks (Red Clay), TVA, Cleveland Utility, Museum at 5 Points.

in partnership with:





Commission Presentation

~450 in person and via youtube channel



Conservation Camp

450 students and teachers



Presentation CSAS

~100 students



National Trails Day ESNP

~100 attendees



County Fair

~40,000



CSTHEA Expo

~1,000 homeschool families



Haunted Trail

~5,000 trick or treaters



Home Show

~4,000 homeowners

Augmented Reality Sandbox

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is an area of land that drains water into a specific body of water, such as a river, lake or ocean. Rain and snow that falls within the boundaries of a watershed will ultimately flow into a single waterway. Watersheds can vary in size and can be as small as a few acres or span across entire continents. They play a crucial role in regulating the water cycle and maintaining the health of aquatic ecosystems.

STORMWATER RUNOFF

Stormwater erosion is a natural process that occurs when rainfall or snowmelt runoff flows over land, carrying sediment, debris, and other pollutants with it. This can have a significant impact on watersheds.

When stormwater erosion occurs, it can cause a number of problems for watersheds. For example, it can lead to increased sedimentation and erosion in streams and rivers, which can negatively impact aquatic habitats and wildlife. Additionally, stormwater runoff can pick up pollutants like oil, chemicals, and bacteria, which can further impact water quality and harm aquatic life.

To combat the effects of stormwater erosion on watersheds, we implement erosion prevention and sediment control measures. It is also important to maintain native vegetation. These are some measures that can minimize the impact of stormwater runoff by filtering pollutants and protect the health of our aquatic resources.

USING THE TOPOBOX

Mold the sand to create various geographic formations, mountains, valleys, rivers, and ponds. Observe the flow of water over your watershed by holding your hand over the sand.

Provided by

HAMILTON COUNTY WATER QUALITY PROGRAM
Learn more at waterquality.hamiltontn.gov



The Program invested in an augmented reality sandbox. It is currently loaned for a semi-permanent installation to Enterprise South Nature Park. In the visitor's center, it attracts both children and adults.



Topobox, the AR Sandbox, is an implementation of an open source project at U.C. Davis supported by the National Science Foundation. Topobox consists of an interactive sand table, a scanner, and a projector. The scanner (a Kinect 3D Scanner) detects the height and placement of the sand in the basin, calculates the appropriate projection, and transmits the information to the projector, which then projects topographic lines and colors onto the corresponding sand below.

20 Pet waste stations

Our new pet waste stations feature a QR code that directs users to the Water Quality website, where a pet waste calculator is available. This tool enables pet owners to estimate the volume of waste produced by their pets. This initiative will be sustained over time as we will continue to provide pet waste bags to support ongoing engagement and participation.





In partnership with
WaterWays

Spring Field Trips

Staff assisted WaterWays with several field trips, by facilitating activities related to stormwater runoff and water quality, macroinvertebrates.

- Hunter Middle
 - Normal Park
 - Signal Mtn. Middle
 - Woodmoore Elementary
 - Nolan Elementary
 - Brainerd High
- March 28th - Approx. 200 students
 - May 3rd - Approx. 100 students
 - May 7-8th - Approx. 200 students
 - May 13th - Approx. 50 students
 - May 14th - Approx. 100 students
 - May 16th - Approx. 50 students





Project WET 2024

Project WET: Water Education Today is dedicated to solving critical environmental challenges by teaching the world about water.

By providing hands-on, science-based water education resources to formal and non-formal educators around the world. These resources encourage responsible environmental stewardship and promote meaningful action to address environmental challenges, climate change, social justice, and sustainability.



This Project WET workshop is sponsored locally by Hamilton County Water Quality Program, the City of Cleveland Stormwater Program, and the Bradley County Stormwater Program. Snorkeling instruction by USDA Forest Service.



www.projectwet.org

ATTENTION

We are updating the Hamilton County Water Quality Program BMP Manual

Effective September 1, 2024

📍 1250 Market Street, STE 3044
Chattanooga, TN 37402

📞 423-209-7851



Hamilton County
Water Quality Program



In accordance with the 2022 MS4 permit, the Program is updating the BMP Manual. We sent mailers to the development community using the list of TNEPSC Level 1 and/or Level 2 certified individuals.


Postcard mailers

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The following policy changes may affect your business practices:

- Updated WQ buffer requirements to comply with the MS4 permit
- Updated channel erosion protection policy
- Updated volume control policy (the 10% rule)
- Design procedures for reducing WQv
- Incentives for using Low Impact Development (LID)
- Guidance on reducing and treating WQv using treatment trains
- Updated SCM selection criteria
- Updated SCM design specifications

The draft manual will be posted on the Program’s website for public comment.



Please don’t forget that we host quarterly management committee meetings. Participation is encouraged!

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To _____

Contact Us



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waterquality.hamiltontn.gov



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